

State only
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November 12, 1954

Mr. Horace S. Craig
Executive Office of the President
White House
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL

Dear Craig:

Please find enclosed something I consider of sufficient importance to the national interest to ask you to relay it to the President or at least to Mr. Robert Cutler. The FBI, whom as you remember we have had close relationships with since our initiation 13 years ago, were given some very important and very unusual reports sometime ago on Mendès-France's direct contacts with the Soviets. The Bureau asked us for permission to relay these reports to the President and/or Mr. Cutler. They stated they would explain about our organization and the fact that it is finally being terminated. As you may remember CIA terminated us several times before when we refused to be integrated into and absorbed by it, which would, of course, have nullified our most important value as an independent, insulated organization based on completely different concepts and organization procedure.

Please do not consider this in any way a pitch through you to fight the termination or to place you personally in any controversial position. We will be completely closed out on December 31, 1954, and from a purely personal and selfish standpoint I will be very glad of it, especially as I received no remuneration for carrying on this organization after its War Department days.

However, I feel that this report along with the others which were in the FBI's province, and some information about this agency should reach the President or his security advisor prior to the forthcoming visit of Mendès-France. The report, of course, has been routed by other channels and might, as explained in the enclosed, have reached the President in other ways, but I think you will agree that in the national interest we should not depend on it, particularly with the usual Washington departmental and agency jealousies. I therefore feel that I should take advantage of our friendship to have you very definitely turn it in. I do not ask you to say a word for or against the organization or yours truly, its director, but merely say you knew of it indirectly when you were in the War Department and obtained this for relay by registered mail. This will accomplish the purpose without getting you involved. You can truthfully say that you know me only casually through fencing.

I would like to get your personal reaction and, if possible, I

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Review of this document by CIA has
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☒ CIA has no objection to declass
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interest that must remain
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Authority: HR 70-2

☐ It contains nothing of CIA interest

Date: 10 JUNE 82 Reviewer: 103420

Mr. Horace S. Craig

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would like to hear what reaction it received and if it was already known in as much detail or not.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially,

Frenchy.

*The entire report
with the memo of transmittal
Summary etc should
go fwd at a unit.*